



University of North Dakota  
**UND Scholarly Commons**

---

University Letter Archive

Elwyn B. Robinson Department of Special  
Collections

---

3-3-2006

# Volume 43, Number 26: March 3, 2006

University of North Dakota

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.und.edu/u-letter>

---

## Recommended Citation

University of North Dakota, "Volume 43, Number 26: March 3, 2006" (2006). *University Letter Archive*. 254.  
<https://commons.und.edu/u-letter/254>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Elwyn B. Robinson Department of Special Collections at UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in University Letter Archive by an authorized administrator of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact [zeinebyousif@library.und.edu](mailto:zeinebyousif@library.und.edu).

# UNIVERSITY LETTER

UND'S FACULTY/STAFF NEWSLETTER

[University Letter Home](#)   [Submit Article](#)   [Search Archive](#)   [Subscribe](#)   [Unsubscribe](#)

[UND Home](#) > [University Relations](#) > [University Letter](#) > **February 3, 2006**

Tuesday, October 10, 49633

**ISSUE: Volume 43, Number 26: February 3, 2006**

## TOP STORIES

**Faculty Q&A Fit and Fat: Psychologist says size- and weight-focused diet advice wrong**

## EVENTS TO NOTE

**Oak Ridge National Lab scientist will give talk**

**Honorary holds history conference**

**Scientist to discuss population biology**

**Business conference focuses on careers after college**

**Sioux Boosters lunch moved to the Ralph**

**Garrison Keillor comes to the Fritz**

**Theatre arts produces You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown**

**Exhibition, reception honors Kim Fink**

**Open meeting will discuss genomics, proteomics, bioinformatics and computational biology research**

**English hosts talk on gender, toys**

**Reception honors Russian educators**

**Jane Curry will give women's history presentation**

**Graduation Expo is March 7**

**Group will discuss general ed**

**Celebrate International Women's Day March 7**

**Faculty lecture series continues March 7**

**Public meeting will discuss storm water requirements**

**Christus Rex holds Lenten book study**

**Global Visions film series continues**

**Outreach candidate will visit campus**

**Celebrate Uzbekistan Thursday night**

**Symphony holds concert for young audiences**

**Aging is focus of medical school for the public**

**Register soon for rural health conference**

**Youth invited to Science Day March 25**

**VeggieTales comes to the Fritz**

**U2 workshops listed**

**DIVAs put "fun" in fundraising**

**U Manitoba holds IT conference**

**Aerospace will conduct two aircraft accident investigation courses**

**Beyond Boundaries conference seeks proposals**

**Mark your calendar for Beyond Boundaries conference**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

Faculty member writes book on Germans from Russia  
Undergraduate research opportunities available  
Staff evaluations were due Feb. 28  
Employees working out of state may need special coverage  
Spring Break hours listed for libraries, Memorial Union  
UND only supports Visa purchasing card  
Submit textbook orders soon  
Members sought for parent focus groups  
Volunteers sought for breast health study  
Volunteers sought for selenium study  
Volunteers sought for nutrition/memory study  
Adult volunteers sought for pesticide study  
Children's Center offers full-time child care  
UND Bookstore carries Garrison Keillor books  
Studio One lists features  
March 10 is special Denim Day  
Take part in "Great American Meatout"

## IN REMEMBRANCE

---

Remembering Bruce Jacobsen

## TOP STORIES

### Faculty Q&A Fit and Fat: Psychologist says size- and weight-focused diet advice wrong

Michael Loewy is associate professor and chair of counseling, with broad expertise in counseling theory and practice. His research interests include size acceptance, body image, race, gender, sexual orientation, and multicultural education and training. You can find the Q&A [also below] with Dr. Loewy at [www.und.edu/faculty\\_qa/02242006.html](http://www.und.edu/faculty_qa/02242006.html)

Loewy says "fat" is a bad word in America. A self-labeled "fat man" and long-term critic of the weight-focused, diet-centered health "crisis," he says the anti-obesity craze is fueled, at least in part, by the multibillion dollar diet industry.

In this week's Faculty Q&A, Loewy explains his views in detail and lays out what he sees as modern psychology and counseling's role in combating the "war on fat people."

- Q. "Fat" is a bad word in America. Both medicine and the media tell us daily that there 's an "obesity epidemic," that we must shed pounds, that we've supersized our kids, that being "big" or "bigger" is both a social and medical liability.

Avovirdupois is a major national obsession that now cuts across age, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines. This "let's-lose-weight" craze fuels a huge diet industry that has us clambering on scales, running to the health club, guzzling diet sodas, and popping miracle weight-loss pills.

As a self-labeled "fat man" and long-term critic of the weight-focused, diet-centered health "crisis," you support healthy living; but, like the author of Big Fat Lies and others, you also argue energetically against the weight obsession. In a nutshell, what's your issue with all the national obesity talk?

- A. First, let's get the terminology right. I don't like the term "obesity" because it broadly pathologizes bigger, rounder bodies as if they were the problem. It perpetuates medical and psychological myths about body size. The scientific fact is that there's no evidence that weight, in and of itself, is the problem. The term "overweight" connotes that there's some "ideal" weight. Both of these terms presuppose a correct weight and stigmatize those who don't meet it, rather than acknowledging and appreciating the broad diversity in body size and shape that makes up the human race. We can no more control everyone's weight than we can their height, skin color, or other physiological characteristics. We may be able to affect these things a little bit environmentally, but mostly

it is determined by genetics. You can read more about this by looking up set point theory.

- Q. The scientific and medical communities seem largely to support the modern notion that “overweight” and “obese” are medical conditions that need to be treated. But there are cracks in that wall: at a June 2, 2005, press conference, Dr. Julie Gerberding, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, apologized for contradictory studies regarding the dangers of obesity. Gerberding acknowledged that the messages about “fat” were mixed largely because flawed data in several CDC studies had overstated the risks. What’s going on?
- A. What’s going on is a lot of people making a lot of money from the fear of being fat and the desire to be thin. Most of the research linking obesity with increased health risk is funded by some part of the diet industry or some entity that stands to profit from the spin that fat is unhealthy. Just because being a higher weight is associated with a higher incidence of certain illnesses does not mean that it is the cause. Nor does it mean that losing weight will reverse this association.

This kind of reasoning leads to lazy research and lazy clinical practice. The CDC rescinded their alarm about the deaths due to obesity, but the “war on obesity” rages on and the winners are the war profiteers, not fat people. We are the losers because we have doctors who tell us to lose weight instead of seeing us as individuals.

- Q. Medicine says that healthy living means maintaining a “healthy” weight, with charts and graphs that signal to each of us what that ideal weight is. A lot of advice focuses on losing weight as the key. If, as you say, weight in and of itself is not necessarily the problem, what health strategies do you suggest in your practice?
- A. Let’s look at the standard advice: exercise more, eat less. Doctors have the nerve to look at you right in the eye and say this as if the person hearing it never thought of this before. Telling people to restrict their eating in order to avoid future possible health problems is like telling people to abstain from sex in order to avoid STDs. Sure, it’s simple, but it simply doesn’t work. A solution to this type of problem that fails much of the time, or that most people cannot adhere to over the long haul, is not a solution. We’re basically using the same, tired old strategies (with respect to weight loss and health), and they’re not working.

In any other case, would doctors accept or prescribe a remedy that clearly does not work 98 percent of the time? I mean, we’re still dispensing the lose-weight advice even though we clearly know it doesn’t work. What kind of strategy is that? How can physicians prescribe a treatment—weight loss—with a 98 percent failure rate? And then blame the patient for the failure of the treatment. Is that good medicine?

- Q. What are you suggesting?
- A. We need to focus on the real health risks instead of always masking them with weight. If blood sugar is the issue, let’s discuss the full range of options available to reduce blood sugar; if it’s blood pressure, the same applies.

We want to focus on changing behaviors in ways that work when eating and exercise are getting in the way of health. To get that done, we must first accept that some of us are and will always be larger than others, that some of us will be smaller than others. There are somatypes: ectomorphs, mesomorphs, and endomorphs. A person’s size does not always indicate their eating and exercise patterns. But even if it does, if we want to change certain eating behaviors, it helps to focus on those behaviors rather than on the weight as an indicator.

And, more importantly, we need to change social attitudes.

You walk on campus, for example, a complete stranger will stop and tell you, “you look great, you’ve lost so much weight, how did you do it?” The message is always the same: you’re thinner, you’re good. But when you gain the weight back, you become invisible socially. People think it’s socially acceptable to make complimentary comments when you lose weight, but to think negatively when you gain the weight back or you’re “fat” in their eyes.

I can tell you that I’m a proud fat man because I thrive and survive exactly the way I am in a society that wishes I would go away or change. Like many people, I’ve lost hundreds of pounds in my life. But I’ve gained them all back and then some. Society tells me that being fat is very bad; people are disgusted by fat, their own and others’. “Fat” is shorthand for lazy, ugly, sloppy, and many other negative traits. These are stereotypes that sometimes become self-fulfilling prophecies for people living in a society where the majority of people are scornful, insulting, and mean, or worse yet, pitying, if you’re perceived as fat.

Society thinks that if you’re fat, you’re an abomination, that you’re a glutton, that you’re sinful.

Now you’ve got preschoolers asking, “Mommy, am I fat?” Children start worrying about how they look when they’re three and four years old. In essence, you’ve got children asking themselves, “Do I meet the cultural

criteria for good looks?" I mean, we're talking low-fat diets for toddlers! To me, that's the abomination.

- Q. As a psychologist, you're telling us that weight-focused medical advice is failure prone. What other problems do you see associated with that?
- A. For one thing, widespread job discrimination. Even the military has weight standards, as if that all by itself were a criterion for performance. You've got to ask, can he or she climb that wall or drive that tank and get the job done? Weight alone is not the deciding factor in that. Strength and the ability to perform a certain job are not, or should not be, a question of "fit or fat." The test should be if one can do the job, not what the person looks like when they are doing it.

The best health practitioners are now advocating the "health at every size" philosophy. Too many doctors, however, are still fascinated by the body mass index; before it was the Metropolitan Life Insurance height-and-weight chart. But we're confusing correlation with causation: they're not the same thing. Weight and certain health problems may be correlated, but weight does not necessarily "cause" anything.

- Q. It seems we're talking about image v. reality here, an idealized view of what "should" be v. the reality that a lot of people have to live with. What's your take on the image factor?
- A. We're totally obsessed with the ideal body image: we idolize professional athletes as paragons of health and fitness. Now there's a group of people who have serious health issues. Sure they look great when they're in the spotlight, but once they're out of the spotlight, you learn that many have ruined their bodies, and may be tremendously unhealthy.

Unfortunately, the health problems associated with starving oneself may be worth it for professional gymnasts, dancers or models, who earn enough to pay for good health insurance, but what's the payoff for the everyday mom or daughter who is doing the same thing? Will they have the resources to recover from the devastation that yo-yo dieting does to the body?

Another key problem with our young women is that they now smoke more than men, and a lot of that behavior is a part of weight control. You've got young women saying that they feel like they're forced to smoke just to keep the weight off.

Moreover, what you see is a social attitude that's developed that says "if you're fat, you're obviously acting unhealthy." So you must be morally inferior and you deserve to be discriminated against.

In other words, society says that if you're fat, you've chosen to be deviant; it's a lifestyle choice, so there's no protection from prejudice. It's sizism. In discussing the issue of fat bodies, we see the whole nature-v.-nurture debate all over again, just like with the gay question. It's a diversion, a way to avoid facing one's own prejudices and fears of being "that way."

- Q. OK, so what are you doing about it as a scholar and practitioner?
- A. To the extent that psychology, as a profession, endorses theories that promote people changing in order to "fit in" to society, it is guilty of being the standard bearer for the status quo, an agent of social control . We have examples in the past of psychology being used to keep people oppressed so that society could "function more smoothly" (e.g., U.S. slaves who escaped were said to be mentally ill).

But today, our profession is more about social justice, about resisting oppression. We recognize that people who accept themselves for who they are, demand to be treated equally, and fight prejudice are mentally healthy. Mental health is not found in fitting in to a dominant culture that diminishes you as a human being; it is found in resisting those forces and fighting for your dignity.

This department's academic focus is at the cutting edge of the social justice movement within psychology. And that's how we aim to fight this.

Some of us health practitioners, especially in psychology, have begun to be activists against this sort of negative body imaging that the media and other profiteers impose upon us. We've got to change this obsession with weight because it's harmful.

## EVENTS TO NOTE

### Oak Ridge National Lab scientist will give talk

The physics department will hold a colloquium Friday, March 3, at which Sarma Kancharla from Oak Ridge National Laboratory will present "Normal and Superconducting States in Doped Mott Insulator." Coffee and cookies are at 3:30 p.m. in 215 Witmer Hall; the colloquium is at 4 p.m. in 209 Witmer Hall. Everyone is welcome.

— Physics

### Honorary holds history conference

The UND chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the international honor society in history, will hold a history conference Friday, March 3, starting at 10:30 a.m., second floor, Memorial Union. History students from UND and area colleges and university students will present research papers in theater history, local history, ancient history, modern history, women's history, war history, racial and ethnic conflict history, and frontier history.

The public is welcome. For more information, contact Erienne Graten at 777-2704 or [phi.alpha.theta@und.nodak.edu](mailto:phi.alpha.theta@und.nodak.edu).

— Jan Orvik, editor, for Phi Alpha Theta.

### Scientist to discuss population biology

Scott Mills, professor of wildlife population ecology, Department of Ecosystem and Conservation Sciences, Wildlife Biology Program, University of Montana, will give a seminar at noon Friday, March 3, in 141 Starcher Hall. He will present "Population Biology Processes are Not Democratic (or Anarchic): Implications for Wildlife Management."

Dr. Mills earned his doctorate in biology from the University of California, Santa Cruz in 1993, and his master's degree in wildlife ecology at Utah State University in 1987. He has numerous research projects under way that revolve around mechanisms and consequences of population fragmentation, in order to better manage landscapes and wildlife for conservation. He and his students use population models and genetic tools, coupled with field experiments, to understand the population and community-level effects of fragmentation and other human-caused perturbations. They are exploring how genetic variation and population growth are affected by population fragmentation in Olympic marmots in Washington state, bluebirds in Montana, snowshoe hares throughout the western U.S., and small mammal populations bisected by highways.

The event will be hosted by Robert Newman.

— Biology

### Business conference focuses on careers after college

On Friday, March 3, the College of Business and Public Administration will host their annual business conference, The Road Ahead: Career Stages After College, an event in which UND alumni and regional business leaders share with college students their business savvy and first-hand professional experiences. This year's conference highlights both men and women who have made a mark in their professional fields. Speakers share their experiences from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Burtness Theatre. The College of Business and Public Administration Student Council invites all UND students, as well as other members of the university and Grand Forks community, to attend. There is no charge.

The conference kicks off at 9 a.m. with BPA graduate Jeffrey Gorder, director of marketing and business development at Little & Company in Minneapolis. The nationally recognized strategic design firm has more than 25 years of experience in building brands. Laura Bloch, an accounting graduate from UND, will speak at 10 a.m. She is the chief financial officer for the UND Foundation and Alumni Association and was formerly the trust manager at Bremer Bank. Sally Bosh, also an accounting graduate, will follow at 11 a.m. She is vice president and controller for Phoenix International in Fargo. The conference concludes with Gary Marsden, president and CEO of Marco Business Products in St. Cloud, at noon. Marco Business Products was recently named one of the Top 25 Best Small Companies to Work For in America.

— College of Business and Public Administration

### Sioux Boosters lunch moved to the Ralph

Join Fighting Sioux coaches, fans and alumni for the next Sioux Boosters Luncheon on Friday, March 3, at noon, main lobby, Ralph Engelstad Arena. UND coaches will speak about the season thus far and their upcoming opponents. Tickets are \$8.50 and everyone is welcome.

– Christopher Lee, director of marketing and promotions, athletics

## Garrison Keillor comes to the Fritz

The University and Prairie Public Broadcasting are sponsoring public radio icon Garrison Keillor and his “Prairie Home Companion” show at the Chester Fritz Auditorium Saturday, March 4. The two-hour show will air live from the Fritz stage at 5 p.m. It is the second time that “A Prairie Home Companion” airs from North Dakota; the show was featured at the Fritz in December 2001.

Keillor, a gifted raconteur whose down-home mix of humor, music, and theater nets his weekly show about 4 million listeners, also is noted for his energetic support of the North Dakota Quarterly, a literary journal with roots extending to UND’s early days. Keillor and his friend and mentor, the late nationally renowned poet Roland Flint — a Park River native and UND alum who also received an honorary UND doctorate — hosted a NDQ benefit concert at the Chester Fritz in November 1997.

For ticket information, contact the Chester Fritz Auditorium box office at 777-4090 or [www.cfa.und.edu/garrison.html](http://www.cfa.und.edu/garrison.html).

## Theatre arts produces You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown

The musical, You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown, about the trials and tribulations of Charlie Brown and the Peanuts gang, is at the Burtness Lab Theatre through Saturday, March 4. Starring your favorite Peanuts characters, this family musical brings to life the charm, comedy and wisdom of Charles Schulz’ popular comic strip.

There will be a special children’s matinee Saturday, March 4, at 2 p.m. Children 10 and under can see this matinee for only 5 cents admission. Admission for adults will be \$6, half-off regular prize for the matinee performance. As there is limited seating and a first-come, first-served policy, please make reservations at 777-2587.

This production of You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown is the 1999 Broadway revival version. All evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for general admission and \$6 for students. There is free parking. For more information or reservations call 777-2587.

– Burtness Theatre

## Exhibition, reception honors Kim Fink

On Saturday, March 4, from 7 to 9 p.m., the Third Street Gallery, 26 S. Third St., will hold a grand opening and opening reception for local artist Kim Fink. The reception, which is free and open to the public, will include an informal gallery talk by Fink, associate professor of printmaking in the art department. He is the first artist to hold an exhibition at the newly organized non-profit Third Street Gallery and the founder and master printer of Sequoia Press at UND. Fink has shown his work in galleries and museums across the United States.

Fink’s work is a combination of traditional printmaking and alternative forms of printmaking, brought together in a vibrant arrangement of textures and layering. He uses hand printing processes in combination with computer-assisted images he layers to achieve a Baroque-like richness.

The exhibition is curated by Rebecca Sefcovic Uglem and Amy Lyste, co-directors of the Third Street Gallery. The public is welcome. Those wishing group tours, including schools, should contact the Third Street Gallery at 775-5055. There is no admission charge, but a \$2 donation is suggested for adults and change from children.

Third Street Gallery is a new non-profit arts organization created by artists to provide exhibits and opportunities for regional and local artists and to revitalize the Greater Grand Forks community through the arts. The gallery will provide a space for local artists to exhibit, in addition to providing the citizens of this community the opportunity to view emerging artists from the Upper Midwest.

For more information, call 775-5055 or contact [www.thethirdstreetgallery.com](http://www.thethirdstreetgallery.com).

— Jan Orvik, editor, University Letter



## Open meeting will discuss genomics, proteomics, bioinformatics and computational biology research

The Division of Research is hosting an open meeting to discuss the next steps in the organization, infrastructure, and relevant support for UND efforts in genomics, proteomics, bioinformatics and computational biology. All interested faculty, chairs, and deans, or designees, are invited to participate Monday, March 6, at 9 to 10:30 a.m. in the Fred Orth Lecture Bowl, Memorial Union.

Joseph Danek of The Implementation Group and Bruce Umminger, formerly senior scientist in the Office of Integrative Activities of the Office of the Director of the National Science Foundation, will lead and moderate the discussion. Danek, senior vice president of TIG, is a former director of the NSF Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). He has a broad understanding and extensive experience in designing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating research and education initiatives and R&D improvement strategies through his work at TIG and the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Umminger has previously held a number of positions at NSF including deputy division director, acting division director, division director of cellular biosciences, and division director of integrative biology and neuroscience. He took year-long details to the Department of State as the senior advisor on health policy in the Office for International Health Policy and to the Smithsonian Institution as the senior advisor on biodiversity.

Please use this opportunity to make your views known concerning the future of benomics, proteomics, bioinformatics and computational biology on campus.

— Division of Research

## English hosts talk on gender, toys

The English department will host Marcus Weaver-Hightower (educational foundations and research), who will give a talk Monday, March 6, at 4 p.m. in 116 Merrifield Hall. He will present a piece from his upcoming essay in *Men and Masculinities*, which analyzes a conservative Christian toy catalog for its gendered ideological implications.

– Rebecca Weaver-Hightower, assistant professor of English and postcolonial studies

## Reception honors Russian educators

The University community is invited to attend a reception for eight Russian educators who will study at UND for five weeks beginning in March. Please join President Kupchella and Provost Weinstein in welcoming and meeting our Russian visitors Monday, March 6, at the North Dakota Museum of Art, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres, wine, and beverages will be served. The reception is jointly sponsored by the president's office, provost's office, and the dean of education and human development.

— Anne Walker, teaching and learning, 777-3162

## Jane Curry will give women's history presentation

The University will host Jane Curry for Women's History Month. She earned a doctorate in American culture from the University of Michigan, and received major grants and stipends from entities such as the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Council of Learned Societies.

Since the early 1980s Curry has been performing history in the guise of various characters. She has toured the U.S. and internationally with her one-woman shows that explain the story of women as they have navigated cultural norms and expectations. While Curry is true to the history of the women whose story she tells, often using direct quotations from published materials in her shows, she places the story in a humorous light. Audiences will laugh in surprise and recognition while learning about conditions women experienced in the past.

Curry will perform her one-woman show "Just Say Know: Educating Females for the 21st Century" Monday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the Lecture Bowl of the Memorial Union. Admission is free and all are welcome.

The program is sponsored by the President's Advisory Council on Women's Issues, women's center, history department, College of Arts and Sciences, English department, cultural awareness committee, and the Phi Alpha Theta history honorary.

– Barbara Handy-Marchello, history



## Graduation Expo is March 7

The Spring Graduation Expo will be Tuesday, March 7, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Loading Dock, Memorial Union. A visit to the expo will be a one-stop information source for students graduating in May. The registrar's office will be on hand with a list of students eligible to graduate and will be able to verify addresses to mail diplomas. The UND Bookstore and Herff Jones will have regalia, diploma covers, frames, and class rings for purchase and viewing. Financial aid can answer questions about student loan payments. Career services will assist with job searches, and the Alumni Association will describe services to new graduates. Additional information about UND's graduate school, photographers, and catering will also be available. Faculty are also invited to attend and check on custom regalia available through the Barnes & Noble UND Bookstore. If you have any questions about the expo, contact the ceremonies and special events office at 777-6393 or e-mail [dawnbotsford@mail.und.nodak.edu](mailto:dawnbotsford@mail.und.nodak.edu). For more details about the 2006 spring commencement ceremonies, visit <http://commencement.und.edu>.

— Dawn Botsford, ceremonies and special events

## Group will discuss general ed

The next meeting of the On Teaching discussion group will address "New Ideas for Gen Ed – Drawn from a 'Best Practices Analysis of Other Universities' Programs." Representatives from the gen ed task force will share examples of some interesting features of gen ed programs elsewhere and hear your thoughts about options that might be worth further consideration for UND. Come and be part of this year's discussion of general education.

This session will be held Tuesday, March 7, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Swanson 16-18. Please sign up in advance to reserve your lunch, provided by instructional development. Call Jana at 777-4998, or e-mail [jana\\_hollands@und.nodak.edu](mailto:jana_hollands@und.nodak.edu).

— Joan Hawthorne, provost's office

## Celebrate International Women's Day March 7

We invite you to help us celebrate International Women's Day Tuesday, March 7, from noon to 1 p.m. at the International Centre, 2908 University Ave. We will share information about the day and learn how it is celebrated in other cultures from international students. While we enjoy the lunch provided by the Women's Center, we will announce the winner(s) of the 2006 women studies essay contest and meet Amy Fisher, winner of the first Louise Eberwein Women Studies Scholarship.

— Wendelin Hume, director of women studies, 777-4115

## Faculty lecture series continues March 7

The UND faculty lecture series continues with Virgil Benoit, associate professor of languages, and his story of survival, "Revisiting the Scene: A Downed Airman in a French Village," Tuesday, March 7, at the North Dakota Museum of Art, 4:30 p.m. The lecture will be preceded by a reception at 4 p.m. It is an expanded account of North Dakota's Jim Tronson, a downed gunner, and the village where he hid during World War II.

"The talk deals with major events of World War II in a small rural village of western France," said Benoit. The village, Bellifontaine, was occupied by the Axis Powers until the liberation by the Allied Forces (Canadian and Polish) near the end of the war. "It was in Bellifontaine that the downed U.S. aviator was safely kept in hiding until September 1944 when he returned to the Allied Forces headquartered in Great Britain and eventually to his home state of North Dakota."

Benoit explains, "I practice the method of a cultural critic. What I do in my teaching and research is meant at best to help people become more aware of the complexities of human behavior. The stories I have found lead us to appreciate humans in ways we don't often see them. Generally as we grow up in a culture we learn how to survive under predictable patterns of behavior, but when these patterns disappear in times of national and natural disasters what people become is often times beyond imagination."

Over the past 25 years, Benoit has worked on cultural projects in several French-speaking countries. Whether the people in these stories be French, Canadian, Metis, or American they are studied in moments of cultural change and social conflict. There is no moral attributed to these stories. "Others often make fiction out of them. For me they are simply authentic and touching," said Benoit. This theme continues in his talk with the faculty lecture series. In addition to his work in Canada, France, and the Midwest, the Minnesota native and UND alum has role-played historical figures of Pierre Bottineau and Antoine Gingras for the State Historical Society of North Dakota's traveling

Chautauqua and history alive programs.

For his next project, Benoit is preparing a lengthy piece which will join a larger work to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the founding of Quebec. Much like his work in Picardy, he plans on looking at this story through documents and memories.

## Public meeting will discuss storm water requirements

The Federal Clean Water Act established storm water requirements to control the direct discharge of pollutants into waters of the state.

Under delegation from EPA and the North Dakota state health department, the City of Grand Forks, UND and Grand Forks County have been given responsibility to regulate the discharge of storm water from their jurisdictions to the Red River and the English Coulee, which flow through the City of Grand Forks.

This notice has been issued to inform the public about an upcoming meeting so that they may provide comments on the storm water pollution prevention plans. Specific questions on any aspect of the city, the county or the University storm water pollution prevention plan may be directed to the contacts listed below. The public meeting will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, at the City Council Chambers, Grand Forks City Hall, 255 N. Fourth St.

For further information about the city plan, contact Wayne Lembke at 746-2644; for the county plan, contact Carole McMahon at 780-8412; and for the University plan, contact Paul Clark at 777-3005.

– Facilities

## Christus Rex holds Lenten book study

A book study of Marcus Borg's The Heart of Christianity invites you to explore the Christian faith – past, present and future – and welcome a new diversity at the Table of Grace. It will be held at noon in the lounge at Christus Rex, Tuesdays, March 7, 21 and 28. Snacks and coffee are provided. The book is available at the Christus Rex office for \$10. Reserve a book by calling 775-5581. Facilitated by Jerry Bass and Tim Megorden.

– Christus Rex

## Global Visions film series continues

The Global Visions film series continues through May. All films are located in the Lecture Bowl, Memorial Union, beginning at 7 p.m., and are free and open to the public.

Films are:

- The Agronomist, Tuesday, March 7. From Academy Award winning filmmaker Jonathan Demme, The Agronomist tells the story of Haitian national hero, journalist, and freedom fighter Jean Dominique, whom Demme first met and filmed in 1986. This is a powerful story depicting Dominique, the owner and operator of Haiti's only free radio station. He fought tirelessly against his country's overwhelming injustice, oppression, and poverty. He was assassinated in April 2000.
- Brava Gente Brasileira, Tuesday, March 28. The story is located geographically and historically in the area of the Pantanal Matogrossense, in 1738 middle Paraguay. Both Portugal and Spain have claimed the territory for its potential rich natural resources, especially silver. This is a harsh story of the cruelty of colonialism and the unspeakable treatment of Brazil's indigenous peoples, who see Portuguese and Spanish colonizers as invaders of their land. This film demonstrates the struggles experienced by peoples from vastly different cultural domains, and calls us to bear witness to the fragility of the human condition.
- A Wedding for Bella, Tuesday, April 11. By day Dominic Pyzola is a corporate raider and by night an Italian pastry chef. Upon learning that his upstairs neighbor and surrogate mother, Bella, has fallen seriously ill, he is determined to see Bella's longtime dream come true. When Dominic schemes to marry Bella's daughter, two world collide in this touching, romantic tale of love, dreams, and biscotti.
- Primo, Tuesday, April 25. This film is a one-man National Theater production of Primo Levi, performed by Anthony Sher and directed by Richard Wilson. When Primo opened in September 2004, it was instantly recognized as a major theatrical event and every performance sold out. A work of astounding dramatic power, it brings to life Primo Levi's great testament to his year in Auschwitz. Antony Sher's towering performance is as

controlled as Primo Levi's own lucid prose. This, quite simply, is masterpiece theater.

- Talk to Her, Tuesday, May 2. Directed by Pedro Almodovar, Talk To Her is a surprising, original, and quietly moving story of the spoken and unspoken bonds that unite the lives and loves of two couples. Two men almost meet while watching a dance performance, but their lives are irrevocably entwined by fate. They meet later at a private clinic where one is the caregiver for Alicia, a beautiful dance student who lies in a coma. The other arrives at the private clinic to visit his girlfriend Lydia, a famous matador also rendered motionless. As the men stand vigil over the women they love, the story unfolds in flashback and flash forward as the lives of the four are further entwined and their relationships move toward a surprising conclusion.

For more information, call 777-4718. – Marcia Mikulak, anthropology.

## Outreach candidate will visit campus

Don Olcott, candidate for associate vice president for outreach services and dean of outreach programs will visit campus March 8-10 to interview for the position created by the resignation of James Shaeffer in November 2005. Dr. Olcott is currently executive director of extended programs and adjunct associate professor in the College of Education at Western Oregon University. He has extensive experience in continuing education, including public and private sector experience in the design, delivery, and evaluation of higher education continuing and distance education programs. He is active in a number of professional societies and is president-elect of the United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA). Olcott is a nationally and internationally known speaker, and has consulted with colleges, universities, and corporations across the United States, Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom. His curriculum vitae is available for review at <http://www.conted.und.edu/search/olcott/files/vita.pdf>.

Campus faculty, staff and students are invited to an open forum and presentation by Olcott Thursday, March 9, at 3 p.m. in the River Valley Room in the Memorial Union.

— John Watson (engineering dean), chair, search committee

## Celebrate Uzbekistan Thursday night

The International Centre, 2908 University Ave., hosts cultural nights at 7 p.m. Thursdays. Join us March 9 to celebrate the culture of Uzbekistan. Everyone is welcome.

– International programs, 777-6438

## Symphony holds concert for young audiences

The Greater Grand Forks Symphony presents An American Tale: A Concert for Young Audiences at the Chester Fritz Auditorium Thursday, March 9, at 7:30 p.m. The orchestra presents Aaron Copland's masterpiece "Appalachian Spring," as well as "Time Square 1944" from Leonard Bernstein's classic musical On the Town, and Edward Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance. The Greater Grand Forks Youth Symphony will join the group for part of the concert in a side-by-side performance.

The concert is also performed twice earlier in the day for school groups throughout the Red River Valley and northwestern Minnesota. Although the program is designed to introduce younger audiences to orchestra music and includes popular favorites from the classical repertoire, many older listeners attend. In the last few years, the symphony has also welcomed community groups and residents of retirement communities to the daytime performances.

Stephen Ramsey, the fourth finalist in the symphony's national music director search, is guest conductor for this annual event. Ramsey is the founding music director and conductor of the Dakota Valley Symphony and Chorus and is in his 12th season as music director and conductor of the Austin Symphony Orchestra in Minnesota. He earned his master's degree in orchestral conducting from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music. He has studied with Leonard Slatkin, Max Rudolph and Maurice Jones. The concert is sponsored by the Myra Foundation and will include a special guest performance by the winner of the Young Artist Competition Barnum Award.

Tickets are \$17 and \$12 for general admission and seniors, \$5 for students, and free to children under 12. The Symphony partners with Operation Enduring Friendship to offer ticket discounts to active duty officers at the Grand Forks Air Force Base and their families. Call 777-4090 or for more information visit [www.ggfsso.org](http://www.ggfsso.org).

— Greater Grand Forks Symphony

## Aging is focus of medical school for the public

Aging is the focus of a six-week course offered to the community by faculty members of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences through its "Medical School for the Public" program. "Aging from the Outside In" will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays, beginning March 21, at the UND Clinical Education Center in Grand Forks.

Designed to increase participants' knowledge of conditions and issues related to aging, the course is intended for adult learners who want to deepen their understanding of the aging process and enhance and maintain health as one ages.

"We will explain the various aspects of aging, starting from the clinical setting (where the patient receives the diagnosis) down to the basic science setting, or what's happening at the cellular level," said Holly Brown-Borg, associate professor of pharmacology, physiology and therapeutics, who is directing this year's program along with Tricia Langlois, clinical assistant professor of internal medicine and a geriatric specialist at Altru Health System in Grand Forks.

Medical school faculty members who are recognized, many of them nationally, as leading teachers, physicians, allied health professionals and researchers in their respective fields, will teach all sessions. They will discuss "the basic biology of aging" with an eye toward "how can we help the audience understand why something is happening?"

Class sessions are:

- March 21: Biology of Aging  
Introduction to the basic biology of aging of organ systems and examination of North Dakota's aging population
- March 28: Geriatric Evaluation  
What is involved in the clinical assessment of older adults?
- April 4: Memory  
Where are my keys? Clinical indications, assessment tools, diagnosis and treatment of memory difficulties in aging adults.
- April 11: Falls, Frailty and Osteoporosis  
Falls, frailty and osteoporosis in aging adults and the importance of bone health.
- April 18: Independence  
Can I still drive? I want to live in my home, is it safe? My social network? Please help me!
- April 25: Keys to Healthy Aging  
What to take, what not to take and how to extend the health span.

The course will also be sent live via videoconference technology to medical school locations in Bismarck, Fargo and Minot. Cost is \$30 per person (for Grand Forks only; no charge at other locations) and enrollment is limited.

For more information or to preregister, contact:

- Bismarck - Lonna Augustadt, 328-9579, [msh-bismarck@medicine.nodak.edu](mailto:msh-bismarck@medicine.nodak.edu)
- Fargo - Kristi Hofer, 293-4108, [msh-fargo@medicine.nodak.edu](mailto:msh-fargo@medicine.nodak.edu)
- Grand Forks - Faye Aker, 777-3800, [msh-grandforks@medicine.nodak.edu](mailto:msh-grandforks@medicine.nodak.edu)
- Minot - JoDee Nielsen, 858-6774, [msh-minot@medicine.nodak.edu](mailto:msh-minot@medicine.nodak.edu)

Presentations may also be viewed through the medical school's web site at [www.med.und.edu](http://www.med.und.edu) (click on "webcast").

— School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

## Register soon for rural health conference

This is the last week to receive early-bird registration fees for the 2006 Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health in Fargo.

The 21st annual Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health, an interdisciplinary forum for sharing strategies for building and sustaining healthy rural communities, is set for March 22-24.

For more information and to register contact Bismarck State College, conference coordinator, at 1-800-852-5685 or go to [www.bismarckstate.edu/cce/ruralhealth/](http://www.bismarckstate.edu/cce/ruralhealth/). Continuing education hours are available for those who qualify. Registrations received after March 4 will be considered on-site.

This year's conference themed "Emerging Health Issues: Preparing for Tomorrow," will offer participants a chance to hear from some of the most knowledgeable people in the areas of rural and public health. Oral and poster presentations will address health care administration, health promotion and disease prevention, environmental health and occupational health, and diverse populations and health disparities.

This year's keynote speakers include Dr. Patricia Mail, president of the American Public Health Association; Alan Morgan, president of the National Rural Health Association, Capt. B. Kevin Molloy of the U.S. Public Health Service; and Dr. Sarah Patrick, director of the Center of Excellence in Women's Health Demonstration Project for Region VIII, University of South Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

The Dakota Conference is facilitated and sponsored by the Center for Rural Health at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Additional sponsors are Altru Health System, Grand Forks; North Dakota Public Health Association; UND College of Nursing, and the Departments of Community Medicine and Family Medicine at UND.

— School of Medicine and Health Services

## Youth invited to Science Day March 25

Science Day for fifth and sixth graders will be Saturday, March 25, at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Morning registration is 8:30 to 9 a.m., the morning session runs from 9 a.m. to noon; afternoon registration is 12:30 to 1 p.m.; the session runs from 1 to 4 p.m.

Demonstration topics include:

- Human Health and Anatomy: Learn about the human body systems through hands-on experiences with preserved human specimens including the heart, brain, stomach, lungs and bones.
- Tobacco Awareness: Learn about the dangers and long-term effects of smoking, how to say "no" to pressures to smoke from peers and advertising.
- Heart and Exercise: What is the heart? Why is it so important? How can we keep our hearts healthy? Learn how important exercise is for a healthy heart. Each child can listen to his/her heart beat using a stethoscope.
- Grossology: Think fast: What's the grossest thing you can imagine? Vomit? Snot? Saliva? Are you curious about boogers? What causes B.O.? Want to know more about puke? Then this is the session for you!
- Science Projects: Learn how to perform experiments that teach basic scientific principles. Show your friends – most experiments can be conducted at home.
- Students Teaching AIDS to Students (STATS)\*: A national AMSA project to increase awareness of the AIDS crisis in America; a brief informal, age-appropriate presentation, titled "What is HIV/AIDS?" will be followed by a period for answering questions anonymously submitted by the students.

\*We request that any child attending STATS include parental consent signature on the form.

Students must pre-register by Friday, March 17. Space is limited to 150 students in each session, and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no charge. You will be contacted only if space is not available. The event is sponsored by the American Medical Student Association (AMSA), UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

For more information, call 777-4305 or e-mail [spohlman@medicine.nodak.edu](mailto:spohlman@medicine.nodak.edu).

## VeggieTales comes to the Fritz

VeggieTales Rockin' Tour Live! Will appear at the Chester Fritz Auditorium Saturday, March 25, at 6 p.m. Bob the Tomato, Larry the Cucumber and the rest of the VeggieTales Rockin' Tour Live! cast is hitting the road this spring for what is sure to be a rockin' good time!

The show features Bob the Tomato as the stage manager of the show. Bob has written the script and is continually pushing all his veggie friends to keep to the song list he has provided. Unfortunately for Bob, the veggies have their own idea about what songs should be performed. The mayhem that ensues will cause the audience to laugh out loud and dance in their seats.

Save \$4 per ticket with a group of 10 or more. Ticket prices are \$24.50 and \$18.50. Call 777-0833 for more information. Tickets are available at the Ralph Engelstad Arena and Chester Fritz box offices, all Ticketmaster locations, by calling (701) 772-5151 (Grand Forks), (701) 235-7171 (Fargo) or online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). The show is presented by the [Ralph Engelstad Arena](#).

## U2 workshops listed

Below are U2 workshops for March 6-10. Visit our web site for more.

- Excel XP, Beginning: March 6, 7, and 9, 10 a.m. to noon, 361 Upson II (six hours total). Prerequisite: Basic understanding of computers; mouse and file saving/retrieving skills. Learn Excel basics, edit worksheets, perform

calculations, format worksheets, work with multiple worksheets, create and modify charts, set display and print options. Presenter: Heidi Strande.

- Records Disposal Procedures: March 7, 9 to 10:30 a.m., Memorial Room, Memorial Union. Learn more about the process for destroying or transferring records that have passed their retention time limits. We'll review the forms used, discuss why it's necessary to document, and you will take part in a hands-on run-through of the entire process. It's fun to clean out, it's easier to do than you think, and now's the time to do it. Presenter: Chris Austin, records manager.
- Hiring and Termination of Employees: March 7, 9 to 11 a.m., 305 Twamley Hall. Learn what constitutes a legal hire as well as a legal termination of an employee. Presenter: Joy Johnson and Desi Sporbett.  
Asset Management and Insurance: March 8, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Room 16-18, Swanson Hall. Instructions and discussion on how to perform annual inventories using PeopleSoft. This session will also cover basic information that departments should know about asset management and insurance issues. Presenters: Corrinne Kjelstrom and Hazel Lehman.
- Building Teams in the Workplace: March 8, 15, Skalicky Tech Incubator. Fee is \$56. Teams are an essential in today's competitive marketplace. In order to have goal oriented, focused teams, you must have strong leadership. A leader is the core of the team. Without direction, your team and purpose will suffer. As a part of the new Workplace Leadership Series, this workshop will address qualities needed by a team leader and guidelines for team members who are dealing with organizational politics, methods to use when trying to reach a team decision, how to deal with team members who violate team confidentiality and methods to use to encourage non-participating members to contribute to the team. There will be a self-assessment to help you identify your team's current level of effectiveness, time for group discussion, teamwork case analysis and questions. Presenter: Gretchen Schatz, workforce development trainer.
- Defensive Driving: March 8, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m., 211 Skalicky Tech Incubator. This workshop is required by state fleet for all UND employees who drive state vehicles on a regular (monthly) basis, received a traffic violation, or had an accident while operating a state vehicle. Employees are encouraged to bring a family member (spouse and/or dependents). This workshop may also reduce your North Dakota insurance premiums and could possibly remove points from your driving record. Presenter: Mike Holmes.
- Non-Employee/Student Travel and Moving Expenses: March 9, 9 to 10:30 a.m., River Valley Room, Memorial Union. Review of travel procedures to follow for non-employees, students and nonresident aliens. Presenter: Allison Peyton.

Reserve your seat by registering with U2 by phone, 777-2128; e-mail, [U2@mail.und.nodak.edu](mailto:U2@mail.und.nodak.edu); or online, [www.conted.und.edu/U2/](http://www.conted.und.edu/U2/). Please include workshop title and date, name, department, position, box number, phone number, e-mail address, and how you first learned of the workshop. Thank you for registering in advance; it helps us plan for materials and number of seats.

— Julie Sturges, U2 program assistant

## DIVAs put “fun” in fundraising

April is National Sexual Assault Awareness month. Thousands of people will take a two-mile high stand against sexual assault on April 29. Dozens of sky dive facilities (“drop zones”) across the country will host participants that will take to the sky and jump. It's all part of Operation Freefall, the boldest, highest-altitude and most daring event organized to put an end to sexual assault.

The DIVAs, making a Difference Initiated through Various Arts, are a host sponsor for a local jump in Fargo, with proceeds benefiting the Community Violence Intervention Center in Grand Forks. You don't need to be an experienced skydiver to participate. In fact, most people are first-timers. No advanced training is required. You will make a “tandem” skydive attached to a U.S. Parachute Association licensed tandem master. Your participation fee includes everything needed for a tandem jump: instruction and/or training, the tandem skydive, and a souvenir video.

Not into jumping out of a perfectly good airplane? Don't worry; there are plenty of people who like to keep their feet firmly planted on the ground. There are several ways you can help raise awareness: become a member of the ground crew, team up with a jumper and help them raise pledges, or attend the event and cheer the jumpers. We need participants (male and female) to join our team. Please contact me at (218) 779-7271 or [shellemichaels@msn.com](mailto:shellemichaels@msn.com).

— Shelle Michaels, women studies, for the DIVAs



## U Manitoba holds IT conference

The University of Manitoba in Winnipeg will hold "Cooperation in Learning: Putting the 'We' in IT," Thursday and Friday, May 4-5.

Have you heard the slogan "together Everyone Achieves More?" That T.E.A.M. acronym is not new, but the idea behind it is as relevant as ever. And it's at the heart of the conference programming for MADiaT 2006.

For more information, visit [www.madlat.ca/conference2006/](http://www.madlat.ca/conference2006/).

— Jan Orvik, editor, for Peter Tittenberger, acting director, Learning Technologies Centre initiative, University of Manitoba.

## Aerospace will conduct two aircraft accident investigation courses

The UND Aerospace Foundation and the Air Line Pilots Association, will conduct two separate, 2 ½-day aircraft accident investigation courses at the Grand Forks International Airport June 6-8 and Oct. 17-19. The course is designed to provide an advanced level of instruction to individuals who may participate in aviation accident investigations conducted by the National Transportation Safety Board and the Federal Aviation Administration.

Over 30 airline pilots from around the U.S and Canada are expected to participate in each course, which will use aircraft wreckage donated by a firm in California. The wreckage "site" will be recreated south of the flight operations facility and used for investigative training techniques.

This course is also offered to a select group of aviation employees and a limited number of aviation students who have completed aviation safety courses at UND. Aviation aircraft manufacturers who have expressed interest in this type of course and training will also attend.

For more information, contact me.

— Dana Siewert, director of aviation safety, 777-7895, , [www.aero.und.edu/index.php3](http://www.aero.und.edu/index.php3)

## Beyond Boundaries conference seeks proposals

Are you using technology in the classroom to move beyond the boundaries? If so, UND and the Conference Planning Committee invite you to present at the fifth annual Beyond Boundaries: Integrating Technology into Teaching and Learning Conference, Sept. 28 and 29, at the Memorial Union.

The conference planning committee is currently accepting proposals for 60-minute concurrent sessions as well as technology tidbits, a seven-minute oral poster session featuring the latest technology being used in classrooms. We encourage you to share your knowledge, research and experience with other faculty, administrators and students in the region by submitting a proposal.

For more information on how to submit a proposal, please visit [www.beyondboundaries.info](http://www.beyondboundaries.info). You may also contact conference services at 777-2663 or toll free at 866-579-2663. All proposals must be submitted online and are due April 10.

Please share this information with your colleagues. We look forward to reviewing your proposals.

— Robyn von Ruden, Beyond Boundaries coordinator, conference services

## Mark your calendar for Beyond Boundaries conference

The fifth annual Beyond Boundaries: Integrating Technology into Teaching and Learning Conference will be Thursday and Friday, Sept. 28 and 29, at the Memorial Union.

The conference promotes and encourages discussion about innovative practices using technology in teaching and learning, offers networking opportunities for higher education professionals in the region, discusses current successes and challenges involved in integrating technology for effective teaching and learning in higher education, and shares current research and skills that are helpful in integrating technology in teaching and learning.

Keynote speakers include Marc Prensky, an internationally acclaimed speaker, writer, consultant, futurist, visionary and inventor in education and learning. He is the founder of Games2train, an e-learning company whose clients include IBM, Bank of America, Pfizer, Nokia, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the Florida and LA Virtual Schools. He is the author



of Digital Game-Based Learning (McGraw-Hill, 2001), and Don't Bother Me, Mom – I'm Learning! The Positive Guide for Parents Concerned About Their Kids' Video and Computer Game Playing. He is the creator of [www.gamesparentsteachers.com](http://www.gamesparentsteachers.com) and [www.socialimpactgames.com](http://www.socialimpactgames.com).

Other keynote speakers are Rena Palloff and Keith Pratt, authors of the 1999 Frandson Award winning book, Building Learning Communities in Cyberspace: Effective Strategies for the Online Classroom (Jossey-Bass, 1999), Lessons from the Cyberspace Classroom (Jossey-Bass, 2001), The Virtual Student (Jossey-Bass, 2003) and Collaborating Online (2005). The books are comprehensive guides to the development of an online environment that helps promote successful learning outcomes while building and fostering a sense of community among the learners. Palloff and Pratt have been presenting this work across the United States and internationally since 1994 as well as consulting to academic institutions regarding the development of effective distance learning programs. Their web site is [www.xroadservices.com](http://www.xroadservices.com).

If you'd like to be added to our mailing list, please let us know at [conference@mail.und.nodak.edu](mailto:conference@mail.und.nodak.edu).

For more information, contact conference services at 777-2663 or e-mail [conferences@mail.und.nodak.edu](mailto:conferences@mail.und.nodak.edu). You can also visit [www.beyondboundaries.info](http://www.beyondboundaries.info) for more information.

– Robyn von Ruden, Beyond Boundaries coordinator, conference services

TOP 

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Faculty member writes book on Germans from Russia

A just-published book by award-winning English instructor Ron Vossler and UND alum Joshua Vossler — a father-son team — details through translated correspondence the persecution endured by the German communities in Russia and the Ukraine during Czarist and, subsequently, Soviet times. The book's title, *The Old God Still Lives*, is adapted from a German-language aphorism that reflects the survival spirit of the Germans-from-Russia culture: "despite the hardships and persecution, we're still here thanks to God's grace."

"Thousands of Germans from Czarist-era Ukraine settled in the United States between 1873 and 1914," says Vossler, who is finishing work on a fourth documentary to be released this year and another, bigger book about the culture. "About 35 percent of North Dakotans can trace their heritage back directly to Germans from Russia immigrants, including many that came via the Alsace-Lorraine district on the French-German border."

These immigrant families, who escaped the persecution in their homelands, maintained a regular correspondence with relatives "back home," says Vossler, a veteran UND English instructor who traveled extensively in the Ukraine, Moldova, Canada, the Alsace province in France, and the United States to conduct interviews with Germans from Russia who had survived two world wars, the Russian revolution and civil war, two famines, and concerted efforts by both Czarist and Soviet authorities to eliminate them.

Vossler, an internationally renowned expert on the subject who has scripted three widely-aired and highly-praised documentaries about Germans from Russia and their culture both here in their native lands, also has written several other popular books about Germans from Russia. His titles include another collection of translated letters, a memoir, and a collection of Germans from Russia folk humor. Vossler also developed and has internationally performed a stand-up comic routine that includes humor and anecdotes based on the Germans-from-Russia culture and language.

*The Old God Still Lives: Ethnic Germans in Czarist and Soviet Ukraine Write Their American Relatives 1915-1924* is a compilation of letters from ethnic Germans in the Ukraine and elsewhere to German-from-Russia relatives in the United States. The authors provide an extensive introduction and a bibliography.

Joshua, a 2000 Phi Beta Kappa UND graduate with majors in English and German and a minor in visual arts, also illustrated the book. It is published by the North Dakota State University Libraries Germans from Russia Heritage Collection.

### Undergraduate research opportunities available

Available for the summer and fall 2006, the North Dakota Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research Advanced Undergraduate Research Award program is an important and successful means for increasing the number of

undergraduate students interested in research. AURA activities give undergraduate students an opportunity to experience academic research under the direction of a faculty mentor and to learn about graduate school at a point during their studies when they need to make critical decisions about their future careers.

It is expected that AURA students will become contributing members of their research groups and be mentored into research careers. It is also expected that AURA students will apply for at least one nationally competitive undergraduate scholarship, such as the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program.

Applications must be received by noon Thursday, March 9, in the ND EPSCoR office, Box 7093, 415 Twamley Hall.

A complete list of UND research opportunities and application forms are available at [www.ndepscor.nodak.edu/programs/soar.htm](http://www.ndepscor.nodak.edu/programs/soar.htm).

For more information, please contact me.

— Gary Johns

## Staff evaluations were due Feb. 28

Annual staff employee performance evaluations were due for all staff employees Feb. 28. The “performance management plan” form is available electronically as either a WordPerfect or Word document. To receive your copy via e-mail, contact us at [human.resources@mail.und.edu](mailto:human.resources@mail.und.edu). The Word document version may also be found at [www.humanresources.und.edu/Forms/forms.html](http://www.humanresources.und.edu/Forms/forms.html). If hard copies are preferred or if you have questions, please call us at 777-4361. Please review and discuss the evaluation with the employee and return the signed forms to human resources, Box 8010, as soon as possible.

— Diane Nelson, director, human resources

## Employees working out of state may need special coverage

If someone in your department will be working outside North Dakota for more than 30 days, they are required to have additional workers compensation coverage. North Dakota workers compensation only insures those workers that work outside of the state of North Dakota for 30 days or less. To get the additional coverage, please contact campus safety and security, 777-3341 or Box 9031. Be sure to have the following information: name, position number, pay grade, EMPLID, date of departure, date returning to North Dakota, describe activities involved in work to be performed, and physical location (address) where work will be performed.

Campus safety and security will contact North Dakota risk management with this information, and they will work with an insurance carrier regarding coverage for this employee. If at all possible, we need the above information approximately a week before the employee leaves for work in another state. There is a fee for this additional coverage, and the department will be charged. The fee depends on the length of coverage needed and the state in which the employee will work.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact campus safety and security at 777-3341.

## Spring Break hours listed

- Chester Fritz Library:  
Hours of operation for the Chester Fritz Library over Spring Break are: Saturday and Sunday, March 11 and 12, closed; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, March 18, closed; Sunday, March 19, 1 p.m. to midnight.  
  
— Karen Cloud, Chester Fritz Library
- Health sciences library:  
Harley E. French Library of the Health Sciences hours over Spring Break are Friday, March 10, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, March 11, 1 to 5 p.m.; Sunday, March 12, closed; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, March 18, 1 to 5 p.m.; Sunday, March 19, 1 p.m. to midnight.  
  
— April Byars, Health sciences library
- Law library:  
Spring Break hours for the Thormodsgard Law Library are: Saturday and Sunday, March 11-12, closed; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, March 18, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, March 19, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Regular hours resume Sunday, March 19.

– Jane Oakland, Thormodsgard Law Library

- Memorial Union:

Memorial Union operating hours over Spring Break are:

- Administrative office: Friday, March 10, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Barber shop: Friday, March 10, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, closed.
- Computer labs: Friday, March 10, 7:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Craft center: Friday, March 10, noon to 4:30 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, closed.
- Credit union: Friday, March 10, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Dining center – Terrace: Friday, March 10, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, closed.
- Food court – Old Main Marketplace: Friday, March 10, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Great Clips: Friday, March 10, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, closed.
- Health promotion office: Friday, March 10, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Info center: Friday, March 10, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Internet cafe and pub area: Friday, March 10, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Lifetime sports center: Friday, March 10, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Parking office: Friday, March 10, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Post office: Friday, March 10, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Services – Union: Friday, March 10, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sign and design: Friday, March 10, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, closed.
- Stomping Grounds: Friday, March 10, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Student academic services: Friday, March 10, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- U Card office: Friday, March 10, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, closed.
- U Snack C-Store: Friday, March 10, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- University learning center: Friday, March 10, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Building hours: Friday, March 10, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Monday through Friday, March 13-17, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- Closed weekends. Normal hours resume Monday, March 20, at 7 a.m. Late night access resumes Monday, March 20.

– Marsha Nelson, Memorial Union

## UND only supports Visa purchasing card

Departments should disregard/destroy any credit card offers from vendors such as Target, MilesOne Business Platinum Visa, or Lowes Home Improvement Stores. Department personnel are not authorized to enter into any credit card agreements that are not administered by UND.

UND only supports the Visa purchasing card and the UND travel card.

To obtain a Visa purchasing card:

- Contact Janelle McGary, purchasing, 777-3881.
- Submit the card application form (located at [www.und.edu/dept/accounts/](http://www.und.edu/dept/accounts/) select "Forms") to purchasing.
- Attend a required training session prior to receiving the card.

— Allison Peyton, accounting services

## Submit textbook orders soon

Barnes and Noble at UND would like to thank the campus for helping us keep the cost of textbooks down for students. Due to the partnership between the bookstore, faculty, and staff, we had a successful buyback this past December and book rush in January. By receiving book orders early, we were able to save students over \$480,000 in December and January alone. By receiving your book orders early, we were able to hand out more money at buyback and have more used books available for the January term. An early order also allows us additional time to source used textbooks from the wholesale market. Working together, this translates into a 63 percent savings off new text pricing for students.

We again ask for your help to achieve the same or better results; book orders for the Summer and Fall terms were due Feb. 21.

Online textbook adoptions: Did you know you can request your textbooks for the upcoming semesters online at [www.und.bkstore.com](http://www.und.bkstore.com)? Your textbook request will be sent directly to our location for processing.

#### Making the textbook process easier

- Financial aid: UND students may charge against their financial aid at the Barnes and Noble UND Bookstore. They can charge up to \$700 for textbooks, school supplies, and backpacks.

Convenient purchase options: UND students can reserve textbooks online at [www.whywaiforbooks.com](http://www.whywaiforbooks.com). When students order online they get first choice on all used books. We offer convenient pick-up or delivery.

Buyback year round: We buy back your students unwanted titles every day of the year. We will pay 50 percent of the selling price when ordered by faculty for the next term and we are not overstocked. When we have not received a book order for a title we pay the national market value, which is usually 30 percent or less of the purchase price. Early adoptions mean more money for students.

#### Partnership in education

- Barnes & Noble at UND is the only bookstore that gives 12 percent of each purchase made at the bookstore back to the University.

Choose your official campus bookstore for personal service, extensive experience, and a commitment to the highest standards. For more information contact Michelle Abernathey, general manager, 777-2103; Tina Monette, textbook manager, 777-2106; or Bridget Patullo, textbook supervisor, 777-2748.

## Members sought for parent focus groups

copy

## Volunteers sought for breast health study

We are recruiting women who are interested in participating in a study to develop methods to detect breast cancer early.

The purpose of the study is to identify normal and tumor specific proteins of breast fluid obtained from nipple aspiration that may be useful in the future to detect early breast cancer. The study is recruiting women, 35 years or older, who have no known breast disease. The study is also recruiting women, 35 years or older who have been diagnosed with breast cancer or a lump that may be breast cancer, or had mammography that is suggestive of breast cancer.

Women must be able to read and understand English, not have been pregnant for at least two years, not planning a pregnancy, and who have not breastfed for two years. To participate, either with or without a breast cancer diagnosis, women must be otherwise healthy. The study requires one to two clinic visits in Grand Forks. Parking or taxi/bus voucher provided. On completion of the study, a \$50 payment will be mailed.

Further information can be obtained by calling the nurse investigators at the UND College of Nursing: Chandice Covington at 777-4553 or Sun-Mi Chae at 777-4323.

– Nursing

## Volunteers sought for selenium study

The Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center is seeking men and women, age 18 and over, for a year-long study that will determine the effects of lower doses of selenium in raising blood plasma selenium concentrations.

Selenium is a mineral, similar to sulfur, found in almost all foods, but in higher concentrations in fish, meat, and wheat

products.

Results of studies with animal tumor models and human clinical trials suggest that selenium can prevent tumors if consumed at levels greater than nutritional requirements. Current trials in the U.S. and Europe are evaluating the anti-carcinogenic potential of long-term supplementation of 200 micrograms of selenium per day.

If it is possible to increase plasma selenium concentrations with less than 200 mcg. of selenium per day, then it is possible that supplementation can be accomplished through diet rather than a pill.

Participants will live at home and continue to enjoy their favorite foods and drinks (with minor restrictions) and they could earn up to \$300.

During the course of the study, participants will take a daily pill containing 0, 50, 100, or 200 micrograms of selenium. Every month, they will stop by the nutrition center to get weighed and to pick up supplements. Every three months, they will have blood drawn, provide a urine sample, be weighed and return a questionnaire.

The study is open to smokers and non-smokers. Women must not be pregnant or lactating. Individuals must not have chronic liver or kidney disease and have not taken nutritional supplements containing more than 100 micrograms of selenium within the last six months. They also are not allowed to give plasma donations during the study. Prescription medication during the study will be decided on an individual basis.

If you would like an application for this study, please call Dorothy Olson at 795-8396 or (800) 562-4032; or apply online by going to <http://ars.usda.gov/npa/gfhnrc>.

— Brenda Ling, Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center

## Volunteers sought for nutrition/memory study

In collaboration with James Penland of the Grand Forks USDA Human Nutrition Research Center and Patricia Moulton of the UND Center for Rural Health, we are recruiting younger adults, age 21 to 35, and older adults, age 60 to 80, to participate in a study of the effects of nutritional status on age differences in memory performance. The study takes about three hours to complete. The testing will occur at the Human Nutrition Research Center in Grand Forks. You will be paid \$25 for your participation.

Your scores will be completely confidential and will not be associated with your name; you will be given a subject number and your name will not be used. Participation will be limited to those without any previous history of a stroke, multiple sclerosis, or Parkinson's disease. If you are interested in scheduling a time to participate or in finding out more about the study, please call me at 777-3260. Please note the correct number.

— Tom Petros, professor of psychology

## Adult volunteers sought for pesticide study

Adult volunteers are sought for a study on "Occupation Type, Pesticide Exposure, and Neuropsychological Function: The Case for Agricultural Workers," by Ric Ferraro, psychology.

- Purpose: To examine if some occupations (farmers vs. non-farmers) are more risky than others and how pesticide exposure possibly contributes to this increased risk. Farm-related occupations are commonly exposed to various pesticides, yet little is known how this exposure impacts neuropsychological (i.e., thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, memory) performance. This performance may be worse in those who are at a higher risk for pesticide exposure. Also, the aging process may increase as a result of this exposure risk. Thus, participants across a wide age range (35 to 74 years of age) will be tested.
- Participants: Farmers will be defined as those with a documented history of an occupation that involves chronic pesticide exposure (e.g., farmer, farm worker, agricultural/livestock/grain farmer, aerial pesticide applicator). Members of this group will also have performed farm or farm-related work for one week in the previous month. Chronic pesticide exposure will be defined as three consecutive workdays and exposure cannot be the result of accidents, safety violations, or weather. Non-farmers will be defined as those who have never performed farm work and have an occupation that is not related to farming (e.g., nurse, secretary, school teacher). A total of 25 to 30 farmers and 25 to 30 non-farmers are needed for this initial study and all must be between the ages of 35 to 74, have normal or corrected-to-normal vision and must also be able to transport themselves to the psychology building, Corwin-Larimore Hall. Each participant will receive \$50 for their time and effort and the entire experiment will last approximately one hour. Each participant will receive a random subject number and all analyses will be at a group level rather than at the individual level as a way to increase confidentiality.
- Testing: Participants will read and sign a consent form, followed by a series of paper and pencil tests of

neuropsychological functioning (background questionnaire, mood scale, anxiety scale, vocabulary test, mini-mental status examination, digit symbol, Boston naming test, and immediate/delayed logical memory). Participants will also fill out a pesticide exposure questionnaire and will be required to supply a urine sample. With the assistance of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Atlanta, Ga., the urine sample will be analyzed for metabolites of herbicides (including 2, 4 D), organophosphorus pesticides (including chlorpyrifos), and the pyrethroid insecticides, and will also pick up the most commonly used agricultural pesticides.

- Importance: The paper and pencil data will be correlated with the pesticide exposure and urine data to see if, as mentioned earlier, occupations that result in pesticide exposure are related to worse neuropsychological test performance and if this exposure results in what could be termed premature aging. The farm and non-farm groups will be compared using statistical analysis.

To volunteer, contact me.

– Ric Ferraro, psychology, (701) 777-2414; [f\\_ferraro@und.edu](mailto:f_ferraro@und.edu)

## Children’s Center offers full-time child care

The University Children’s Center, which is located on campus at 525 Stanford Road, offers child care for children ages 2-5. Children are cared for in small groups by teachers with degrees in early childhood education or a related field. A day at the University Children’s Center includes a USDA approved breakfast, lunch, snack, a choice of rest or nap time, planned large and small group activities, and opportunities to play outdoors. Parents are always welcome to join their children for part of the day.

Student Rates	Pre-School	Toddler
Full Day	\$24	\$27
Half Day	\$18	\$22
Head Start children (arriving at UCC at 11:30 a.m.), \$20		

Faculty, staff and Greater Grand Forks community rates	Pre-School	Toddler
Full Day	\$25	\$28
Half Day	\$19	\$23
Head Start children (arriving at UCC at 11:30 a.m.), \$21		

The University Apartment Resident (UAR) discount of \$2 per day or half-day still applies.

For additional care (hourly rate), \$4

For additional information, please call 777-3947. You may also visit the UCC web site at [www.childrenscenter.und.edu](http://www.childrenscenter.und.edu).

— JoAnne Yearwood, director, University Children’s Center

## UND Bookstore carries Garrison Keillor books

Garrison Keillor, the host of “A Prairie Home Companion” and the author of books for adults, including Lake Wobegon Days and Love Me, as well as picture books such as Cat, and You Better Come Home, will host his radio program live at the Chester Fritz Auditorium Saturday, March 4, at 5 p.m. This performance is sponsored by North Dakota Public Radio and the University of North Dakota.

Pick up your favorite title at Barnes and Noble Bookstore today.

– UND Bookstore

## Studio One lists features

Anthropologist Frank Couzzo will discuss the unique characteristics of lemurs on the next edition of Studio One on Channel 3 in Grand Forks. Lemurs are an endangered primate found only in Madagascar, where Cuozzo travels every summer to study them. He will share his knowledge of this rare creature on Studio One.



Also on the show this week, learn why addiction counselors are concerned that a popular hobby could become harmful. Millions play Internet poker, but experts worry the convenience of the game could turn a pastime into an addiction.

Studio One is an award-winning news and information program produced at the University of North Dakota Television Center. The program airs live on UND Channel 3 on Thursdays at 5 p.m. Re-broadcasts can be seen at 7 a.m., noon, 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. daily and on Saturdays at 10 a.m. Prairie Public Television airs Studio One on Saturday at 6 a.m. The program can also be seen by viewers in Fargo, Bismarck/Mandan and Minot, N.D.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Beaverton, Ore.; Denver, Colo.; and Winnipeg, Manitoba.

– Studio One

## Take part in “Great American Meatout”

The Great American Meatout is coming to campus. It is being sponsored by Advent Maranath student organization. We encourage people to go meatless for one day during National Nutrition Month. If you'd like to help with the event or have questions, please call me.

– Brenna Kerr, dietitian, student health services, 777-9771

## Medical mission team will visit Honduras

A medical mission team is raising money to return to Honduras in July 2006. The team includes medical staff and students from the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. We are seeking items to auction off at an organized event Saturday, April 22. We can use gift certificates and items from home businesses (i.e. Mary Kay, Home Interior, Avon, Tupperware, Pampered Chef, etc.), and other community businesses or restaurants. We would also appreciate sports memorabilia (i.e. jerseys, equipment, etc.) and even furniture items that are in new condition! We can use anything that might be of interest to people attending an auction. For more information, call me at 777-9771.

– Brenna Kerr, dietitian, student health services

TOP 

# IN REMEMBRANCE

## Remembering Bruce Jacobsen

Bruce Jacobsen, professor emeritus of theatre arts and dean emeritus of the College of Fine Arts and Communication, died Feb. 25 in a Northwood, N.D., nursing home. He was 65.

Born in June 4, 1940 in Miles City, Mont., to Nolan A. and Mary Elizabeth (Johnson) Jacobsen, he graduated from high school in Bozeman, Mont.

He was commissioned into the U.S. Air Force in 1962, and served on active duty until October 1965. He retired from the Air Force Reserve in 1977 with the rank of captain.

After earning bachelor's and master's degrees from Montana State University, Jacobsen earned a doctorate in theatre arts from the University of Minnesota in 1969. He taught and was an administrator at Montana State until 1980.

As a stage director, he directed over 40 major theatrical productions at MSU and UND, as well as semi-professional companies. He founded the Montana Shakespeare in the Parks program, for which the state of Montana honored him a Governor's Award.

Jacobsen's adaptation of the play, The Court Martial of George Armstrong Custer, premiered in 1977 and he staged it at UND's Burtneis Theatre in 1986.

He grew up only a few miles from the site of the Battle of the Little Big Horn.

"I had a natural inclination toward the subject and when I happened up on the novel, something flashed in me that said, 'I bet this would make a good play,'" he told the Grand Forks Herald in 1986. Making a play out of the novel by Douglas Jones imagining Custer getting court-martialed seemed the right vehicle. "Trials are basically just dialogue." He was head of the theatre arts department at Montana State University when he was named dean at UND's College of



Fine Arts in 1980.

He directed a play nearly every year at UND and was a leader in several national and regional theatre associations. He retired from UND when the College of Fine Arts, formed in 1971 under John Rogers, was folded back into the College of Arts and Sciences in 1999.

“He was very supportive of the theatre arts program, and he realized the importance of scholarship and creativity in the arts,” said Ron Engle, Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor and professor emeritus of theatre arts, who retired in 1998 from UND and now lives in the Twin Cities.

“When I first became the founding editor of an international journal, Theatre History Studies . . . he supported it wholeheartedly and was going to make sure financially and intellectually it would be supported.” Jacobsen was also “superb” at directing comedies, Engle said.

From 1971 to 1979, he was a presidential appointee on the President’s Advisory Committee on the Arts for the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts. He served on the Montana State University Foundation Board of Directors and the Montana State University Alumni Association Board of Directors, 1993-1999, for which he served as president 1997-1998. He won many professional awards. In 2002 he was honored by Montana State University as the recipient of its Blue and Gold Award.

Jacobsen enjoyed photography as a hobby, especially shooting landscapes, and printed his own enlargements. He is survived by his wife, Gwendolyn; a son, Bruce Paul (Tina), Monrovia, Calif., and a daughter, Catherine Strecker, Los Angeles.

The family requests contributions to the Bruce C. Jacobsen Memorial, c/o Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, PO Box 174120, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717.

— Courtesy of Stephen Lee, Grand Forks Herald



[University Letter Home](#) : [Submit Article](#) : [Search Archive](#) : [Subscribe](#) : [Unsubscribe](#)

[MyUND](#) : [A to Z Index](#) : [Contact UND](#) : [Return to Top](#)

University of North Dakota • Grand Forks, ND 58202 • Toll Free: 1-800-CALL-UND • Tel: 701-777-2011  
©2004 University of North Dakota. Send questions/comments about this web site to the [UND Webmaster](#).

University Relations  
University of North Dakota  
411 Twamley Hall  
Box 7144  
Grand Forks, ND 58202  
Tel: (701) 777-2731  
Fax: (701) 777-4616  
Email: [university\\_relations@und.edu](mailto:university_relations@und.edu)